

AIM

Issue 44
November 2012



ARTISANS IN MINIATURE

Features,
Miniature
News,
Projects
& Much
More!



Win this cake!

birthday draws for
cakes in three scales

FREE
imag



Flower Pot Cottage

WRITTEN BY ARTISANS, ENJOYED BY MINIATURISTS



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Features...

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by Catherine Davies

Birthday card features a cottage by very own Beal

www.petiteproperties.com

Design and format by **Marianne Cook**

www.mariannecook.com

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NEW AUTOMATED REMINDER!

Are you worried you might miss
an issue of the **FREE AIM** imag?

Then worry no more!!

AIM imag readers can now sign up for a
FREE monthly reminder to be sent straight
to your inbox,
notifying you each
time a brand new
issue is released!!

To sign up for our
new automatic
reminder simply email:



DON'T MISS
EACH **NEW**
EDITION OF THE
FREE AIM IMAG!!

office@petite-properties.com

inserting 'AIM imag' into the subject heading
of the email and we will do the rest!

So why not sign up today and make sure
that you never miss a thing?

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Reader

.At the time of writing I can hardly see out of my window to the bottom of my garden because of a very English autumnal fog but I take heart in knowing that by the time you are reading this I will be basking in the sunshine of Western Australia. Bragging? Well, yes, a little! I promise I will still be working on the magazine and on the look out for local talent. Miniaturist talent, that is!

This issue is largely a birthday greeting to AIM – 5 years old and deserving of a party. Special thanks are due to Bea and the founder members for the success of this online group of talented miniature artisans. We have a variety of ways to celebrate with luscious food, dancing and music as well as a visit to the circus. There are also projects and tutorials to keep you occupied.

Naturally at this time of year the spooks and ghouls found their way into the pages.

I always like to read of the fairs and shows around the world. Reports have been mixed this year with comments about declining sales in keeping with the global economy as well as runaway successes in some of the smaller venues. Please keep these reports coming and do remember to send in ideas for future features.

As a birthday gift we have beautiful cakes to send to 3 lucky draw winners. These are featured on the cover and in the birthday feature. They have been kindly donated by AIM members Catherine Davies and Pauline Coombes and are in 3 different scales: Catherine's, on the cover, is 12th scale and Pauline's, in the birthday feature, are 24th and 48th. To be in with a chance to win one of these calory free delights simply send an email with 'cake' and the scale you prefer in the subject line to cousinpetuniapost@gmail.com by December 6th. Petunia will take a break this month to do the lucky draw. This draw is open to all our readers and winners will be contacted by email during the following week.

Don't forget there is still time to enter the doll dressing competition announced in issue 43 available in the archives on the website. This gives you the chance to win one of Viola Williams' beautiful patterns and a showcase article for your work. All entrants will have the opportunity to show their dressed doll in the magazine.



This will be the last issue for 2012 and I hope to have the Advent Calendar ready for you in December. Do remember to contribute to this – it is very popular and shows off the skills of our talented members.

Seasonal greetings to you all

Sally



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Please note

AIM is an active association to which all members are expected to contribute.

Happy 5th

5 years old!

Thank you Bea

and the founding members of ATM

Birthday celebrations stir various emotions – often these depend on our age. When we are small we can't wait to be more grown up, when we are grown up we try to hold a few years back and, perhaps, when we really mature we and others celebrate our achievement.

Way back in time a birthday was a time when the gathering of friends and family was thought to be protective as was the use of light and the making of noise to ward off evil spirits; hence the birthday candles, music, hooters and songs. Balloons, too, have long been associated with celebration. European jesters and troubadours were said to sometimes inflate the entrails of recently butchered animals and "entertain" with them. Not sure I like the idea of being entertained by an inflated intestine! Dressing up in our finest, exchanging presents and cards, singing and dancing all help to make a memorable day.

24th scale cake
by Pauline Coombes
paulinesminis.blogspot.co.uk
Win this cake!
See editorial for details



Cards and Banner
www.thedollshousemail.co.uk

Birthday ATM



Whilst researching this topic I was amazed to discover that the ubiquitous song "Happy Birthday to you" is copyrighted. The song is more than one hundred years old having been written in 1893 by two sisters, Patty and Mildred Hill, who were schoolteachers in Louisville, Kentucky. The tune was originally a morning greeting to their students entitled "Good Morning To All." The lyrics were copyrighted in 1935, 11 years before Patty's death, and the ownership has swapped hands in multi-million dollar deals ever since. The current copyright is owned by Warner Communications. They purchased it in 1989 for more than \$22 million dollars. So please forgive me for not quoting from it! Don't want to get sued.

Birthdays have become big business not least in the area of cards. Originally these were sent by way of an apology for not being able to attend the festivities but have since become more widespread.

Nothing will stop us from congratulating AIM on a fifth birthday! Grab a balloon and toot that horn! Come to the party



Pipo the Clown
www.helena-petitefashions.co.uk



Time to Dress Up

Dressing room, footwear
& girls' dresses
Kathy Brindle
www.kathybee.net



Party Girl by
www.buttercupminiatures.co.uk



Ball Gowns
Christine Verstraete
www.cverstraete.com



Ready to Party!



Costume dolls by
Janet Harmsworth
www.minimannequin.com



Let the music and dance



Music room in a
clock case by

Kathy Brindle
www.kathybee.net

An evening
music
evening
something
little
exciting



Viola Williams



ing and feasting begin...

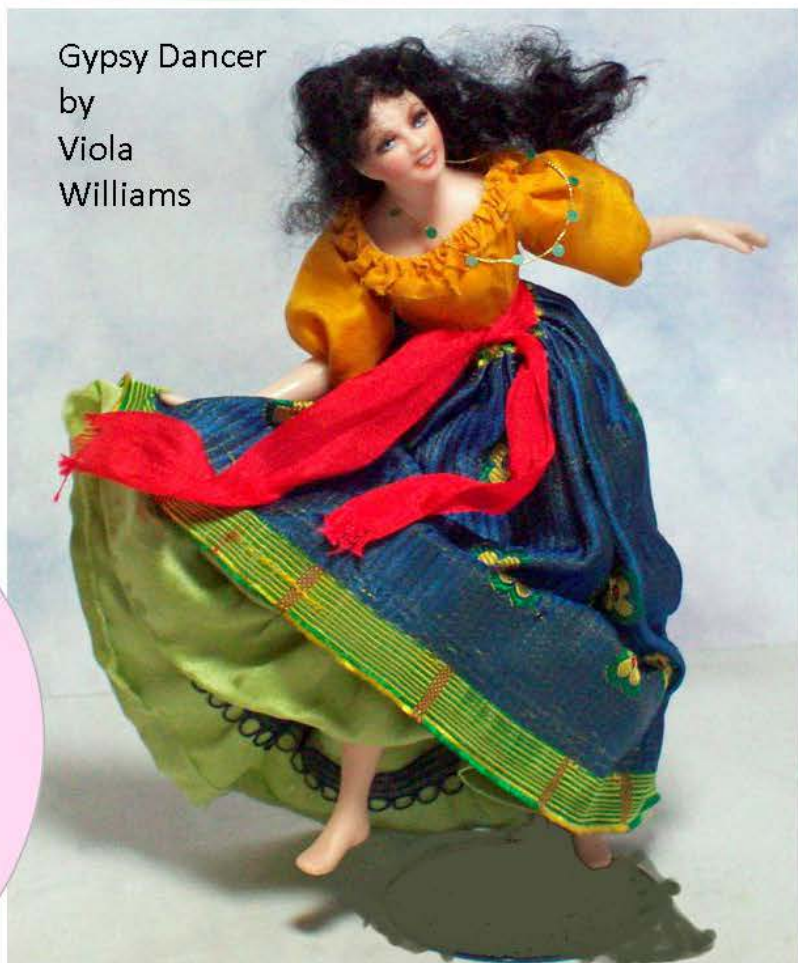
Elegant
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Kathy Brindle
www.kathybee.net

Janet Harmsworth
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Viola Williams
www.violasdolls.com

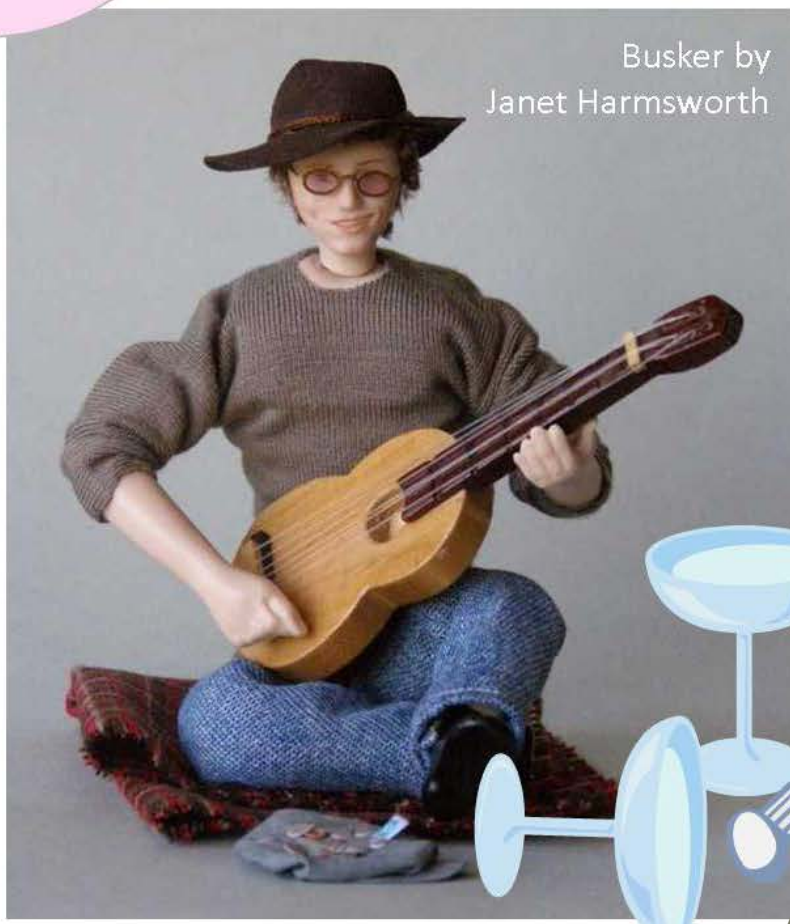
Gypsy Dancer
by
Viola
Williams



Regency pianist
Janet Harmsworth



Busker by
Janet Harmsworth



Let the music and dance



Delicious party food by Philippa Todd
www.toddtoysandminiatures.com



ing and feasting begin...



Canapés by Catherine Davies
www.dollshouseheaven.co.uk



48th scale cake
by Pauline Coombes
paulinesminis.blogspot.co.uk
Win this cake!
See editorial for details

Let the music and dance



Vol-au-vents and
cocktail sausages
by Catherine Davies
www.dollshouseheaven.co.uk



ing and feasting begin...

*And to finish—
a cheesecake with
a difference !*

from Sadie Brown
www.homewardflight.etsy.com



Photographs ©the artisans 2012

Text and formatting
Sally Watson

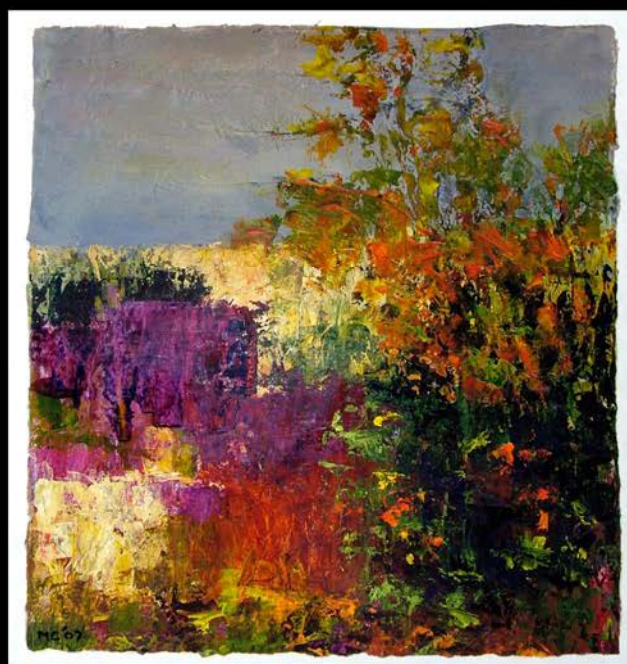
Cross over Crafts

Of Aim Member Marianne Cook

I've always drawn and painted, and when my husband took early retirement and we moved to Anglesey in North Wales, I had the chance to develop what had been a hobby, and studied for a degree in fine art.

For a few years exhibition opportunities were many, but then came the economic downturn, with the expense of preparing shows, (framing costs, gallery fees and commissions, etc), having to be set against fewer and fewer sales...

Happily I discovered a new hobby. I always thought my aunt was bonkers, with her dolls' houses, and my cousin even worse with her many more! But slowly and surely I was hooked. Unfortunately I only got so far as the ground floor of an ambitious 1/12th scale house before discovering how much I enjoyed making miniature flowers. The rest, and, I'm very much afraid, that first house, is, as they say, history.



RL painting, on Mynydd Bodafon (November) acrylic on tissue on card, c12"x12", one of a series of paintings made of Mynydd Bodafon on Anglesey, North Wales (in English, Buzzard Mountain), at different seasons



RL painting, Flame Nasturtiums, acrylic on card, c8"x8"

I started off, like most people, making from kits, which is a wonderful way of learning techniques and acquiring skills. I was reminded of a 3D module we'd done in college, making paper sculptures, which I'd really enjoyed. Paper is lovely to work with: lots of different weights and textures, and it can be any colour you can mix! There the skills used as a painter come into their own, of course.

Flowers were always a favourite subject in my work, and I'd always felt more comfortable making relatively small pictures, if not actually miniatures. So miniature flowers made principally of paper and wire seemed the obvious way to go. My paintings are loose and rather impressionistic in style, rather than like those exquisite Dutch still life flower paintings. Similarly my miniature

flowers and plants are designed to be homely and naturalistic rather than florist-perfect, the sort you would find in my own, very ordinary garden - though I do try to make them as accurate as possible. I work in 1/12th, 1/24th, and 1/48th scale, but prefer 1/12th because of the amount of detail that can be reproduced.



Miniature plants in 1/12th scale—narcissi, nasturtiums and French lavender

I sometimes also make paintings for the dolls' house, in just the same way as their full size counterparts. This might involve pasting a layer of creased tissue onto the paper to create a more interesting textured surface to paint on.



On Mynydd Bodafon (September)

Mini version of RL painting, acrylic on tissue on card, c2"x1.5" in a grey shabby chic style frame



Topiary Garden

Mini painting, acrylic on tissue on card, c1.4"x1.6", in a distressed silver frame



Buttercups and Campion

Mini version, acrylic on tissue on card, c2.5"x2" in a distressed grey painted frame



RL painting: Buttercups and Campion
Acrylic on tissue on board, c20" x 15"

I expect to make more real life size paintings (if I ever get time and people ever have the spare cash to buy such luxuries again!), but making miniature flowers gives me just as much creative satisfaction. The pleasure expressed by customers who buy them gives me enormous pleasure too. I feel they are giving themselves a little treat in difficult economic times, and so try to make receiving the packages a bit like a birthday, with tissue and ribbon and a pretty card. These things matter.

You can find images of my paintings - some of them still available for sale - on my website, together with some galleries of miniature plants and flowers. I also have an Etsy shop mostly for miniatures, but also listing an occasional painting or other hand crafted work

©Text & Photographs Marianne Cook 2012

www.mariannecook.com

www.etsy.com/shop/Marianne26

Formatted by Janet Harmsworth



FALL COLOR

by Kathi Mendenhall, Aim Member

Every fall in the United States, a ritual begins as soon as the temperatures begin to cool. We call it "Leaf Watching!" From the Northeast to the Southeast and in some Midwestern states, leaf reports abound. Those who live in the rolling hills and mountainous regions see the pageantry in their own back yards. This feels like the earth falling asleep and we cuddle into it's multicolored quilt until spring. It is truly something to see. For a more spectacular view we Southerners climb into our cars and head to the mountains, if we have the luxury of gas money, and drive to the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Blue Ridge Parkway runs 469 miles from the Appalachians to the Great Smoky Mountains. The fall color and views are breath-taking.

All this thought of fall and trees and leaves led me to ask about miniature leaves and fall arrangements. Autumn in the States is back to school, tackle football, and the baseball world series. It is Halloween and Thanksgiving; walks in the woods and hayrides, apple pie and carving pumpkins. It is harvest time and fireside chats. So, while I take a walk down memory lane and feel nostalgic, please enjoy these trees, arrangements and colors of the Autumn season by some of our talented AIM Members.



Picturesque view of the drive along the blue ridge mountains.



Full fall color from Jacqui Perrat in 1/24 scale. The detail in this tree is spectacular. On the right is a Rowan Tree (Anti-witch) that Jacqui created. Jax informs me," The rowan tree is in autumn berry and these took me approx 10 hours to apply.

But I don't just do trees ! I have trouble keeping up with the demand for 48th scale veggies patches, and have done a 48th scale cacti. Then there's the Buddleia that pervade railways and so are sought after. "



"However, my main business is definitely trees since I make specific species of trees and many folk find it hard enough to make a generic tree. "

Mulberry Tree by
Jacqui Perrat,
Cenynix Miniatures.
<http://www.ceynix.co.uk/>



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**Mulberry Tree by
Jacqui Perrat,
Cenynix Miniatures.**

<http://www.ceynix.co.uk/>



Only from the imagination of Nancy Cronin can come these incredible faces on her mushroom people. On the left Rip Van Winkle continues his snooze.

When I asked Nancy to tell me more about the mushroom people, she responded, " I was just playing around with expressions and these are the mushroom people that happened."

Nancy Cronin
nancysdoll@comcast.net



Kathy Brindle of KathyB Miniature Flowers and More, presents three fall flower arrangements.



Kathy also submits this Autumn vignette. of girls playing dollies in the fallen leaf pile.

Table arrangement of gold, green, and rust.

<http://kathybee.net/>





A hand-tied bouquet of Autumn flowers, which includes garden chrysanthemums in shades of red and orange, Michaelmas daisies, and a couple of rudbeckia flowers with foliage, tied with raffia, in 1/12th scale.

Marianne Cook



A rustic stoneware jug with an arrangement of harvest time flowers which includes flamboyant red and yellow dahlias, red and orange show chrysanthemums, Michaelmas daisies and ears of corn, in 1/12th scale.

www.mariannecook.com



www.etsy.com/shop/marianne26



BOO !



Jax Perrat of Ceynix Miniature trees (www.ceynix.co.uk) made the haunted tree which is lit causing the mouth and eyes to glow. Note the bats and HUGE spiders in the branches.

© 2012 Kathi Mendenhall, additional text and Images by respective artisans

Taken Out of Context. Conversations between one Miniaturist to Another...is it any wonder that our non-miniaturist friends don't always understand us???

"I tend to look at whatever is in my little dust pan when I sweep off my work area and mull over what I could do with it."

"When building the lamp I used an old fashioned hair clip with 2 prongs to hang it upside down..."

"Do the sides glue to the front of the back or to the sides of the back?"

"I've been using a lot of paper cocktail napkins for upholstery."

"Papered the walls put it together and THEN found that I have the roof on for the back."

"Just need to wallpaper the grass"

"I'm going to grass up the trees"

'Taken Out of Context' is compiled from postings to the AIM group or other groups, or from conversations in chat rooms, or overheard at shows (with permission, of course, from the speaker!) To send in a snippet of conversations between miniaturists that would ONLY make sense to other miniaturists, e-mail Janet Smith at **desertminis@gmail.com**.

Formatted by AIM Member, Janet Smith of Desert Minis, Inc., www.desertminis.com.

CLOWNING

Tears of laughter.....strange creatures, we humans!

There is such a fine line between joy and grief and it is clearly demonstrated by the figure of a clown. Very often a tear drop will be part of the make up and the Pierrot figure is usually shown as a sad little being.

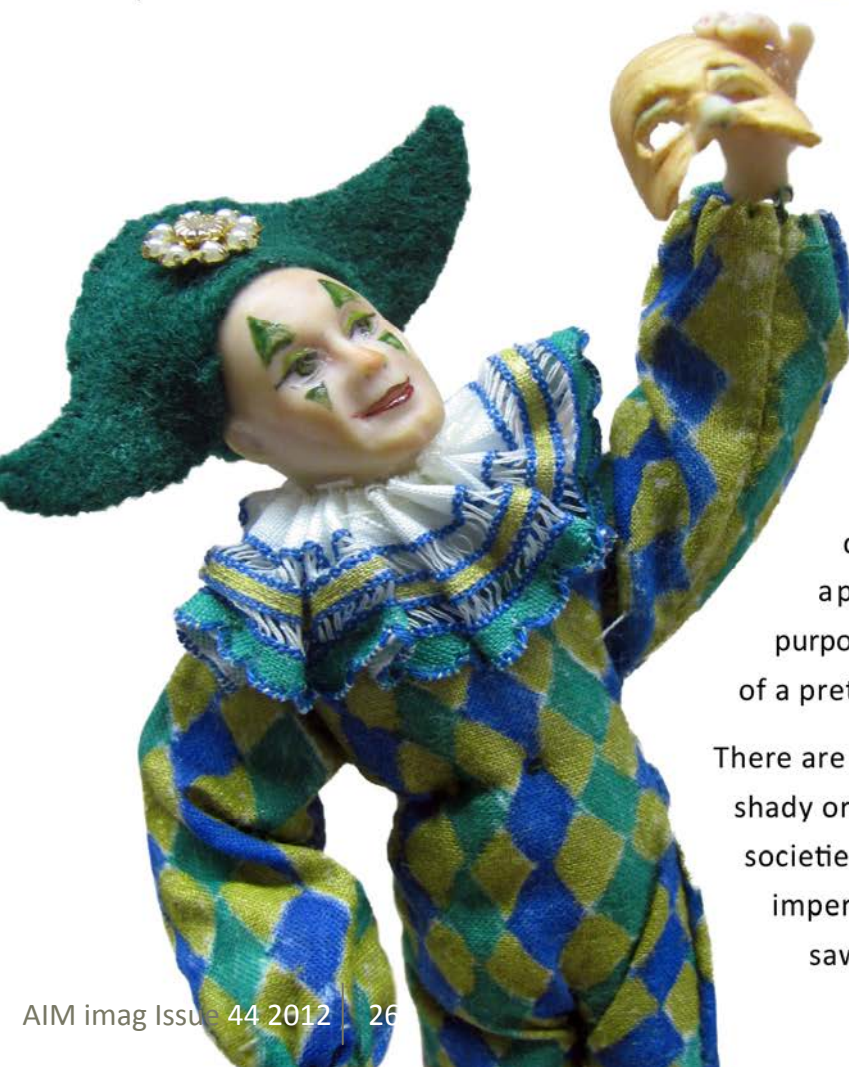
A recent request for AIM members to submit photographs of entertainers produced such a wealth of clowns that I was inspired to revisit an old interest, a subject that has intrigued me since my student days. As a small child I remember being terrified by the traditional circus clowns and was ungrateful enough to be sick and taken home in disgrace because everyone thought I had overdosed on candy floss! Facing my fears later by researching the colourful history of this motley crew has partially overcome them.

So where do they come from? What possesses a human being to make a complete idiot of himself for the amusement of others? The answers are as

chequered as Harlequin's costume.

Throughout recorded history you will find references to fools, jesters and clowns, all with very clearly defined traditional appearances and purposes almost always of a pretty vulgar nature!

There are also some rather shady origins. While some societies would reject an imperfect child, others saw the potential to



AROUND



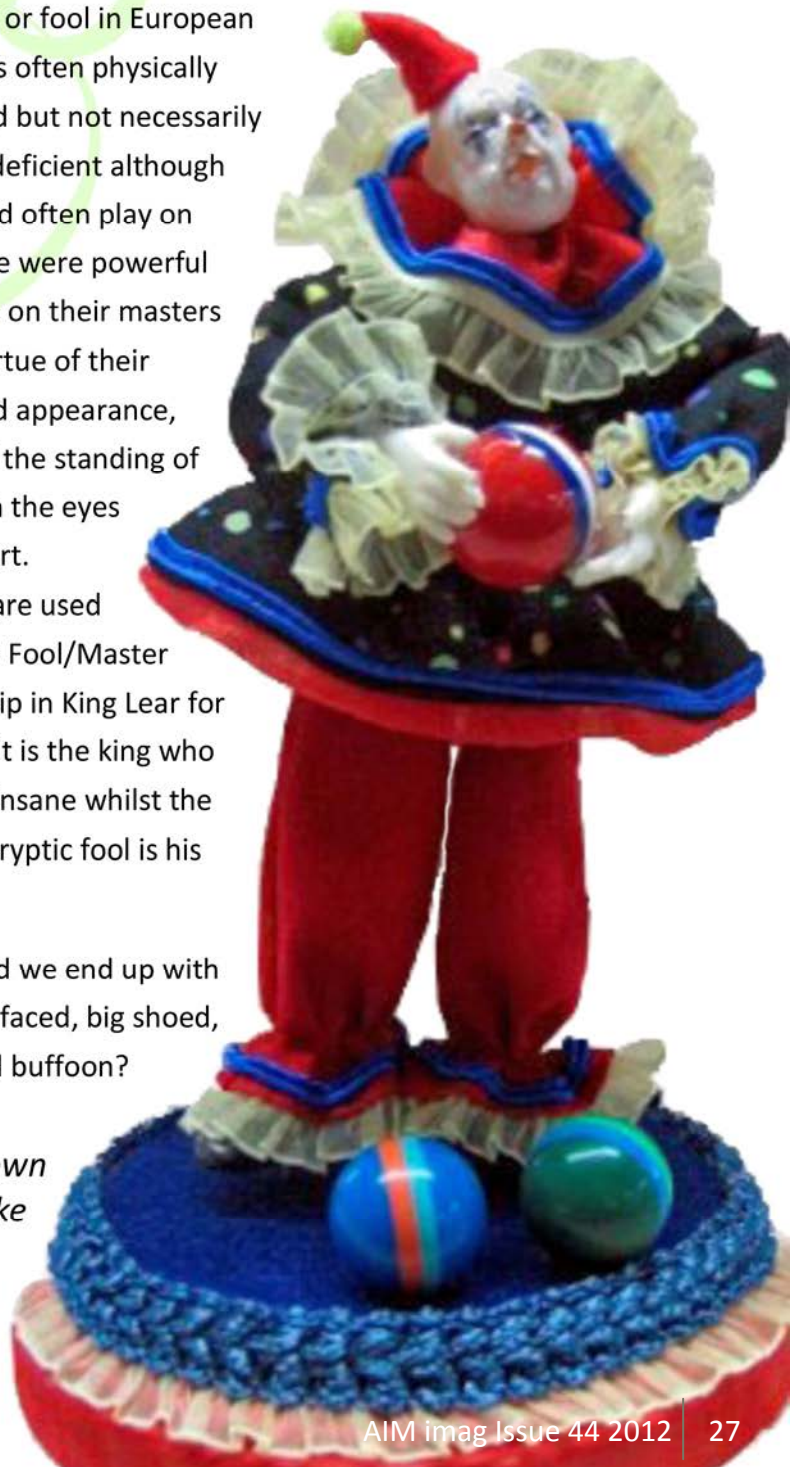
be had from begging or entertaining. There is evidence that in ancient Egypt and early civilisations a child would be deliberately deformed to ensure some meagre income. Locking children in chests to stunt their growth was an unpleasant method of artificial dwarfing.

The jester or fool in European courts was often physically challenged but not necessarily mentally deficient although they would often play on this. Some were powerful influences on their masters and, by virtue of their challenged appearance, enhanced the standing of the king in the eyes of the court.

Shakespeare used the classic Fool/Master relationship in King Lear for example; it is the king who becomes insane whilst the wise but cryptic fool is his support.

So how did we end up with the white faced, big shoed, be-wigged buffoon?

*Jesters & clown
by Kay Brooke*



It is too long a story to include all here but suffice it to say the tale is a long one. It takes us through the 'vices' of the early miracle and morality plays, continued by strolling players and the Zanni of Commedia dell'Arte troupes through the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. The journey included the much loved, if somewhat dubious, Punch and Judy as well as Harlequin and Columbine. Eventually it gave rise to the still popular pantomime and farce. The Italian comedy became very popular in 17th century France and it was here that the baggy trousered, conical hatted buffoon - Auguste - developed alongside the satin clad, more serious Joey.

*Long may they continue
to entertain us*



Kay Brooke
www.kaysminidolls.com
Jane Laverick
www.janelaverick.com
Janet Harmsworth
www.minimannequins.co.uk

Jane Laverick



Kay Brooke



Janet Harmsworth



Kay Brooke



From over the fence

By AIM Member
Malcolm Smith of
Malcolm's Miniatures

Techniques and
materials from other
fields of modelmaking

Weathering & distressing techniques

There are many techniques available for representing the effects of the weather, age and general wear and tear on models of buildings, vehicles, furniture, etc. Some of the best techniques for depicting the effects of the weather and environment are to be found in the model railway and military modelling fields. The most effective weathering is subtle and barely noticeable but just takes away the new appearance of a model. The model locomotive in photo 1 shows the effects of dirt and rust very subtly. Note the way that rust has appeared where water is spilt when filling the side water tanks and the way that dirt has collected in the corners.

Similar subtle effects can be achieved on buildings as in the example in photo 2 where dampness has discoloured the bottom of the wall.

Many of the effects can be achieved by the application of paint either as thin washes, by dry brushing or by spraying, depending on the effect required. With all of these techniques it is important that the main coats of paint have dried thoroughly before applying any weathering finishes.



Photo 1. A weathered model railway locomotive



Photo 2. The effects of dampness on a wall

Thin washes of paint

The paint used can be water based such as water colours or acrylics or the paint can be an oil based or enamel paint. The way the paint is applied depends on the effect required and whether the surface to be treated is absorbent.

On an absorbent surface, such as the wall in photo 2, water based paints work best. Start by wetting the lower part of the wall with water and then apply the paint at the bottom using a brush. The paint will diffuse upwards through the wet wall. Add more paint if necessary but remember that the paint will look darker while it is still wet. Using this approach gives a graduated effect without a hard edge to the colour.

Photo 3 shows the results of thin washes over the interior painted brick walls and timber to depict



Photo 3. Weathered interior wall

accumulated dirt and deterioration of the paintwork.

If the surface is non-porous such as a vehicle, like the locomotive in photo 1, a slightly different technique is used. In this case enamel paints work best. Start by flooding the area with white spirits, then add a little paint with a small brush into the corners. As before the paint will diffuse through the white spirit. The white spirit will then evaporate leaving a subtle colouring over the surface with a greater concentration of colour in the corners.

Dry brushing

This technique involves filling a brush with paint and then wiping most of it off on a tissue leaving only a little paint on the brush. The brush is then rubbed over the surface of the object to be weathered leaving a trace of paint on the surface and highlighting any high spots. The door in photo 4 has been treated in this way to depict the effects of dampness and decay of the wood.

Spraying

An airbrush can be used to produce some spectacular weathering effects allowing a very subtle build up of paint with soft edges and very fine applications of paint. However, an airbrush is quite an expensive item and unless you have a lot of weathering to do probably does not justify the outlay.

Although much cruder, spray cans can produce good results. In particular the sprays produced by Modelmates (www.modelmates.co.uk) are very good. They are not actually paint - they are a water based dye and are supplied in a range of suitable colours such as mud brown, moss green, rust, oil brown, etc. They dry quite quickly but remain soluble so you can smudge the finish with a damp cloth, removing some of the colour and leaving more colour in the depressions and corners. The dye can be fixed when finished with matt varnish spray. Care is needed with spray cans to ensure that sufficient pressure is available to create a fine spray rather than droplets. Don't forget to mask off areas that are not to be treated.

Weathering powders

Another way of producing subtle effects is by using one of the Carr's weathering powders that are available in a range of colours from C+L Finescale (www.finescale.org.uk). They are applied by rubbing onto the surface either with your finger or with a cloth. This also allows the colour to be built up in the corners. Again the powders can be fixed with spray varnish.

In the next issue I will describe some more specific techniques for weathering and distressing including rust and methods for adding moss and lichens to roofs.



Photo 4. A weathered door

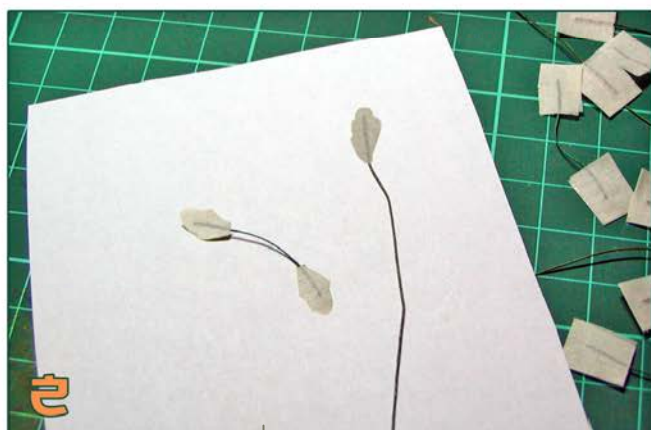




- ✿ Masking tape
- ✿ Thin florist paper covered wire, about 28 gauge
- ✿ Gypsophyllia, dried, or small balls of orange tissue paper
- ✿ Green water colour pencils or paints
- ✿ Green cotton thread
- ✿ Clear drying glue such as PVA

- Scissors
- Paint brush
- Tweezers Snips or cutters to cut wire
- Ball end tool

Cut the thread to about one inch in length and fold over a corresponding piece of masking tape, as in the centre of picture. You will need two or three of these thread pieces for each piece of wire.

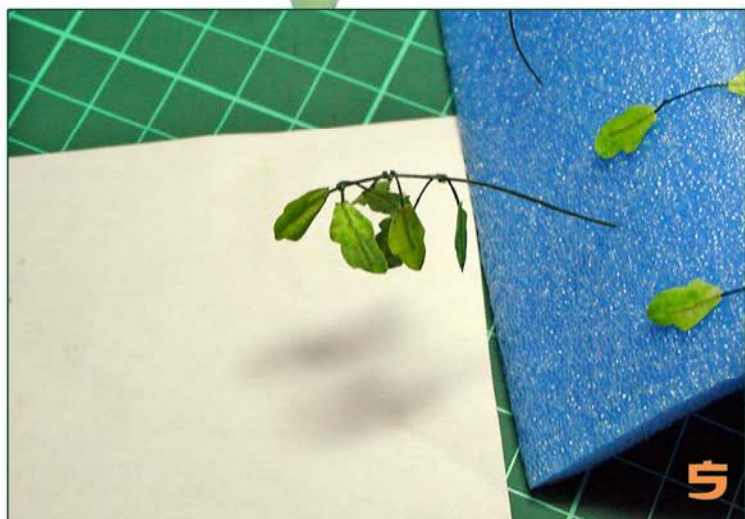


Or you could find some photos of Chinese lanterns on the internet, study the real life leaves, and make your own design.



3

4 The leaves were then left to dry.

A detailed illustration of a plant branch, likely a species of Mimosa. The branch is dark brown and has several large, green, ovate leaves with prominent veins. Small, round, reddish-brown fruits are hanging from the stems. The background is white.

The stem on the left (picture five) has three threads added to the stem. Once in place, a tiny spot of glue on each knot will keep the thread in place.

I found after I had done the first one that using a ball end tool on the leaves could give them a curl and a little shape.



The buds then need to be left to dry. Please note, do more than you think you need. Why? Because they may break or not be tightly closed when dry, or you just may not like the shape.



You can shorten the stems if too long but it is better to have excess length when making. This gives you something to hold onto when knotting thread and adding the little lanterns.



Text and images © Pauline Coombes 2011-2012
<http://paulinesminis.blogspot.co.uk/>
 Formatted by Marianne Cook

HAVE FUN!

Never open a box of feathers with the cooler on high and the window open.

Once stuck in tacky glue feathers do not become unstuck.

Favorite tweezers are made of a miracle space age material that allows them to disappear on the work table while you are looking at them.

The piece of lace that you carefully measured twice, once glued down, will be $\frac{1}{2}$ inch too short.

The next squeeze of the glue bottle will be way too much.

Towers of 'stuff' will reach their maximum vertical height and topple- wiping out anything in their path when they go.

I hope I learn nothing new tomorrow....



Send a Tip or
Hint to AIM
Today!

'Tips and Hints' is compiled from postings to the AIM group or from contributions from individual members.

To send in a tip you think others will appreciate, e-mail Janet Smith at desertminis@gmail.com. We don't attribute these contributions as many are miniature "folklore" passed from one miniaturist to the next, so knowing who thought of them in the first place is a challenge!

Formatted by AIM Member, Janet Smith of
Desert Minis, Inc., www.desertminis.com.



By Kathi R. Mendenhall, AIM member

with Alison Brand, Ludwina Akbulut-Van Osterwyck, Mary Williams, Viola Williams ,
Wendy Smales and Debra Dixon-Paver

© 2012



Most of the silk we use today is cultivated from silkworm farms with controlled environments. Mulberry leaves comprise the bulk of the dietary requirements of these worms. This diet increases their body size. The worms follow their lifecycle and spin a cocoon, but before the metamorphosis takes place the cocoon is soaked in water and the filaments are unwound. This processed raw silk filament has the natural gum removed that the worm uses to hold the cocoon together. Silk is a natural protein fiber just as wool, or hair and has a beautiful sheen. It is luxurious. Once processed, silk strands or fibers are knitted and woven into a variety of fabrics.

Metamorphosis and processing of the Silk worm and Moth.



Silk Needlepoint by Alison Brand



**1/12th Scale Men's Slippers
Silk needlepoint by Alison Brand**

Chiffon

Sheer and diaphanous, lightest weight. Chiffon billows. Use chiffon for many things, such as sheer draperies, veiling or women's gowns. Great for scarves.



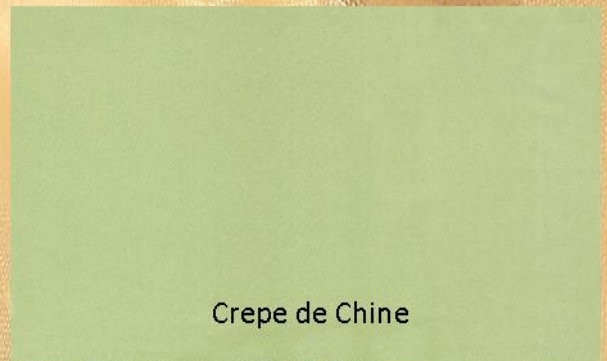
Chiffon

China Silk

China silk, also known as Habotai, is a lightweight, sheer, plain-weave fabric. It is one of the less expensive and more commonly available silk fabrics. Habotai takes practice as glue will be sometimes bleed through.

Crepe de Chine

Crepe de chine is a lightweight fabric of woven twisted fibers. These twisted fibers give it the pebbly look we think of. But it does still have a shiny luster. Great for nightgowns. And wonderful when used on the bias. It does not ravel or tear easily. (Crepe or skin-like)



Crepe de Chine

Charmeuse

We think of charmeuse as the shiny, silky, slinky silk. The back is crepe like but the front is shiny and smooth. When we think of the slinky dresses of the 1930's, that is charmeuse. (Some call it silk satin)



Charmeuse

Dupioni

Slubs. When I think of dupioni I think of slubs. These are naturally occurring as the differences in the strands of silk. It is fairly stiff and often used. (Personal opinion - I don't care of dupioni in miniatures. It seems out of scale. The threads are large, the slubs even larger.) BUT, it is inexpensive and you can work around many of those things. Dupioni is often dyed in bright colors.



Dupioni

Gauze

Gauze is similar to chiffon, but is extremely sheer and delicate. It is very soft and has little need of adding gravity. Gauze dyes beautifully and has an abundance of miniature applications.



Gauze

Jacquard

Jacquard are woven patterns, using matte and reflective threads to create a light and dark effect in the fabric. Patterns are often floral and paisleys. The sample left is a kimono fabric but is a woven jacquard.



Noil

Noil is similar to cotton in feel and look. It has the feel of silk, however. It does drape better on a person than cotton, and is wrinkle resistant, but the fabric is too heavy for most miniature applications.



Organza

A very sheer and crisp fabric of an open weave. I liken it to starched chiffon. It is great for specific use in wedding garments, petticoats, lampshades and corsets. It dyes brilliantly.



Shantung

Made from both the tussah silk fibers and dupioni, shantung has many of the properties of dupioni. It does tend to really ravel, so I don't think it works well with miniatures.



Tussah

Tussah silk, is not made in a controlled environment so the fibers have a lot of slubs. Tussah is often called Shantung even when they are a combination of fibers. Tussah's variations in slubs cause uneven dyeing and the fabric ravel easily. Also, not great for miniature applications.

Twill

Silk twill combines the strength of both the wave and the threads. It has the obvious diagonal weave, great texture and is easy to dye. Can be beautiful in miniatures as it has great properties.



Velvet

Velvet is loomed on a backing with tufts that are raised on the surface. The surface is then cut creating a pile. Most silk velvet today is a combination of rayon and velvet for added strength. 100% silk velvet would be very costly. In most miniatures velvet is heavy and out of scale, however some practice with the fabric proves some striking results.

Finally, velvet is very strong, and dyes well as mentioned in many descriptions. Most often silk is mixed with other fibers taking the best qualities of both. Rayon and silk blends, are easily washable and dye-able, as well as wrinkle resistant.

Cotton and silk are quite like silk and rayon. The durability of both the silk and the cotton together with a premium wicking effect, makes this a perfect fabric for summer wear: soft and strong, and beautiful colors.

Silk and cashmere create a luxurious fine wool. Silk and linen is used for premium clothing.



**Silk needlepoint shoes by Alison Brand
stitched on 60 count gauze
www.etsy.com/shop/AlisonBrand**



Ludwina Akbulut-Van Osterwyck



Ludwina Akbulut-Van Osterwyck



The beautiful work of Ludwina Akbulut-Van Osterwyck
Woven carpets and pillows

http://dekorativ.tripod.com/doll_house_miniature_carpets/

Highly lustrous gold silk, showcasing intricate weave.
Wendy Smales, Wendy's Miniatures



More by Wendy Smales - Hand-woven Thai silk. Shows luster, bright colors and subtle texture of hand-woven silk.



Illustrates the bright dyes that silk can hold. Two left are plain, 3 right are dupioni silk.
Wendy's Miniatures, <http://wendysminiatures.com>

Dolls dressed in peach crepe silk with lace, silk taffeta in stripes, gold and ivory silk brocade with silk velvet representing fur and silk allusion veiling. Lower right mauve silk charmeuse.

All dolls dressed by Kathi Mendenhall, IGMA Artist and AIM Member.





The precise and beautiful work of Debra Dixon Paver.

Left - Lady in silk with Feather Boa.

Left bottom - Lady Jane Grey

Right - Children
Seaside Holiday

<http://www.cdhm.org/user/debbie>





Victorian Lady in Silk hat and coat by Mary Williams.

www.dollshousedolls.co.uk

Mary Williams ball gown in red and black of fine silks.



Purple Thai silks by Janet Harmsworth.



Janet Harmsworth presents ladies in Aesthetic Dress (left), and (right) Full evening gown

www.minimannequins.co.uk



Gossiping ladies by Mary Williams



Steampunk Man by Janet Harmsworth



Lucille dressed in dupioni and black lace. by Janet Harmsworth.



Viola Williams created a black lace and grey silk dress, a wine silk dress and a dapper gentleman all in white silk.
www.violasdolls.com



© 2012 by Kathi Mendenhall and other AIM members Alison Brand, Ludwina Akbulut-Van Osterwyck, Mary Williams, Viola Williams, Wendy Smales and Debra Dixon-Paver

These lovely plinths by Kathy Brindle are perfect for gardens and elegant rooms. They are made from the pillars used in cake making and are widely available.

1/4 inch petal punch

Cake pillar

Green and coloured paper (optional)

Florists' foam

- Paint your pillar in your chosen colour and leave to dry.
- Glue some florists' foam to the top centre of the plinth. Glue a smaller piece on top to give height to your arrangement.
- Punch petal shapes from green paper for leaves and some from coloured for flowers.
- Lay these on the damp sponge and when moist shape them with the stylus or pick.
- Starting from the centre of the foam, glue your leaves; as soon as the top is covered start to glue them as though they were growing down and around the plinth.
- As well as having plinths with just greenery add some coloured flowers for a wedding or celebration.
- Spray with fixative such as Crystal Clear or Krylon when all the glue has dried.

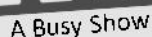


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By AIM Member
Ana María Villalón
www.petiteskoses.com
Photos by Tomás Díaz García



The Association of Artesans Miniaturistes de Catalunya, ASSARMICAT held its annual fair on the 15th and 16th of September, 2012, in Les Cotxeres Sants Sants Street No 79 in the city of Barcelona. The public hours were Saturday from 11 am to 8 pm and Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm.

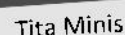
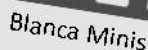
Fans of miniatures and dollhouses enjoyed a weekend filled with news. They met again with their friends and people who share their hobby. Artisans met again as well and also met a few new artisans. Fortunately the weather was good and we had some beautiful sunny days.

The fair offered a great exhibition of dollhouses and scenes, including a competition. This year's theme was "magical scene" with a prize of euros to spend at the fair. This year's winner was Esther Jiménez de Gracia.

Next year, 2013, the Fair will be held in the same place on the 21st and 22nd of September. For more information please go to:

www.assarmicat.com
assarmicat.blogspot.com.es

We wait for 2013.



**By AIM Member
Janet Smith
Of Desert Minis, Inc.
www.desertminis.com**

SHOW REPORT!



A busy show



Flowers by Pat Brehm-Nash of Pat's Bloomers



Food Kit Samples by Janet Smith of
Desert Minis, Inc.



Amy Doucette-Allen and husband Bill of Handworks

October always brings a miniature buzz to Bay Area in California. People travel for hours to attend the Good Samaritan Showcase of Miniatures. And why not? This is one of the biggest and best shows in the United States. At the helm are Barb Jones and Phyllis Hedman, and closely behind them are a whole slew of volunteers who handle workshops, exhibits, auctions, fundraising drawings (with prizes donated by dealers), Tools and Techniques sessions, ticket taking, and free workshops for children. Dealers love this show and there is often (always?!) a waiting list to get in.

This year's show took place on October 6th and 7th, with workshops on the Friday before the show and a featured workshop by Debbie Young following the show.

There's always a line waiting to get into the show which features more than 100 dealers. The show attracts a large number of IGMA fellows and artisans. While most hail from the USA, dealers traveled from the UK, France, Holland, Japan, Canada, the Netherlands, Spain and Germany.

The show is well advertised with Martha Puff and son, Michael, taking the helm with respect to the show's blog and follow up articles in several miniature magazines.

Like many miniature events, this one is a charitable event, with this show supporting the PlaneTree Health Library, a free consumer medical library housed in the Cupertino Library, Cupertino CA.

For more information on the show, see their webpage at:
goodsamshowcase.miniature.net

Or their blog at:
goodsamshow.blogspot.com

Next year's show is October 12-13. Come and join us!

The IGMA Show

Show Report!

By AIM Member
Christiane Lourier Of Chris
Miniatures
www.chrisminiatures.com

The IGMA show was held in Teaneck NJ, at the Marriott Glenpointe, September 28th & 29th, 2012.

For once, I was an attendee, not a dealer, and enjoyed it very much. I spent only two days, and stayed at the hotel which was very comfortable. During the show a table with sandwiches and drinks was available to the participants, at a decent price. The restaurant had good food.

There were a little under 100 vendors. An overwhelming majority of the dealers were from the USA with one from the UK (J.Carrington), two from Japan, including Miyuki Kobayashi and her wonderful aquarium fish (I treated myself with a small fishing bowl!) and one from Canada. The attendance was good but the aisles were large and it never felt crowded.

Friday evening at 7 pm there was a special gathering in the hotel lobby for desserts and demonstrations. There were round table discussions on special topics. J. Carrington presented tips and techniques on using fabric which was fascinating, Bill Studebaker showing how to vein a common piece of wood and make it look as if it came from the tree itself. Jacqui Carey showed me how to make braids out of multicolored silk thread, and there were many more. It was very friendly and certainly a highlight of the show.

Auctions were organized, one silent and one regular. Participants filled out a ballot ticket to win a prize each day.

I appreciated the very good balance among the vendors. There were mostly artisans, but also a few resellers, tools, haberdashery. Many high priced miniatures, but also quite a few "affordable" ones. As far as scale, they were all represented, and that was my surprise. I usually do not look at smaller scale, but for the sake of the report I started counting them, and stopped. Many vendors offer up to three scales. I would say the percentage would be 60 % 1/12th, 40 % smaller scale.

Workshops were organized Thursday and Friday. I personally attended Sue Veeder class and made a stained glass window featuring a ship. It was very enjoyable.

A young corner was set aside for young miniaturists, and I thought the idea most interesting.

If I ever get around NY at a time when IGMA holds a show, I will make it a point to visit again.



A garden scene by Natasha

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Sadie Brown

Miniature Food Artisan



We put AIM member Sadie in the inquisition chair and she told all!

Can you tell us a little about your life before miniatures?

It is safe to say that there has been very little time in my life which hasn't been influenced by miniatures. This would have been when I was very new to the world and spent a lot of time in my pram, feeding the ducks down at the Mere and wanting to understand the words written on the washing powder box! Doubt you would want to know any more!

How long have you been making miniatures?

My first recognisable miniatures which are, to this day, on the window bottom in the kitchen are a chicken and a snowman made with air dried clay when I was three or four so that would be for twenty five or twenty six years.



As a child, what were your favourite toys?

A pad and pencils because I always wanted to write and draw. I did have the usual bike and pedal car but, apart from these things, I was deeply interested in miniature worlds. Inevitably, my 1960's Lundby doll's house was a favourite but also a 1980's very plastic theatre which had the most amazing lighting system, footlights, spotlights, the lot. I remember it used a lot of batteries! Then there was my Playmobil boat and camper van and the Britains farm.



What attracted you to miniatures in the first place?

The same thing that attracts me to them to this day: the idea of something so tiny being an exact replica of something in the bigger world; all that detail crammed into such a small thing.

What was your first miniature purchase?

Oh I remember the day so well! The excitement of being in York, walking around the ancient buildings so steeped in history which, even at such a young

age, made me tingle. A meal in a cafe which overlooked the rose window in the Minster and then ... and then ... it was time to go and find the dolls' house shop and spend the money so carefully stored away in my little red bag for so long. The first thing to do was to look at every single item in the window with the greatest of care but I saw it straight away! I kept going back to it and even the most careful search of the shop itself didn't detract me and there it was at last, in its little paper bag but, more importantly, in my hand! My trifle in its lovely glass bowl and covered with so many tiny hundreds and thousands.



What miniature item do you most covet?

I had a working grandfather clock in my dolls' house and, above all, I would like a working grand piano. Played with a pin??

Who do you most admire in the miniature world?

I'm always stunned by the wonders that I find in our miniature world and it's totally impossible for me to choose one above all others. What very clever people miniaturists are! However, I was very lucky to receive a Robert Stubbs dollshouse for my twelfth birthday and knowing that he is retiring due to ill health makes me feel very sad, so I would like to say that I admire him beyond words and will regret so much that I can no longer think of a new house from his hands. Thank you, Robert, for all the joy and happiness you bring.

What made you decide to specialise in food?

From the day I bought the trifle in York, food is what has sparked my imagination and brought me constant delight. Even if I digress a little sometimes (but not often!) it is what I will always come back to.

Have you had any unusual commissions?

I was asked to replicate, in miniature, a champagne glass filled with pink champagne with an engagement ring at the bottom! This was from a gentleman who intended to propose to his girlfriend, a keen fan of miniatures. I smiled all the time I was making it.

Do you have any hobbies unrelated to miniatures?

If I have the time to spare I go to nature. Here on the Isle of Skye I live amongst such incredibly beautiful surroundings that it would be hard not to get involved. On the way to the shops I am just as likely to note a sea eagle soaring above me looking for his lunch too. The best of times are the ones I've sat on the shore watching an otter play in the water or sat eating a meal late at night, after I've finished sculpting, and a pine marten has been rifling the birdfeeder clamped to the window inches away!



Any phobias?

Oh that's easy! My one phobia is definitely icy roads! I used to live at the top of a steep, winding hill in the Highlands where we looked down on a loch in perfect isolation. Life in summer was serene and comfortable but in the depths of winter that hill was covered in solid ice and not gritted for days and days and days. The car wheels slipping at every corner of that hill was more hair raising than anything Alton Towers could make you suffer. It wasn't over when you got to the bottom either, for you then had three miles of solidly packed ice to negotiate until you got to the main road. To this day I will go to all sorts of lengths to avoid conditions like that but fortunately the gritter is always here on Skye before the ice!



Any fantasies?

Since a young girl I've always wanted to live in a gorgeous, rambling, Victorian house with huge rooms and vast bay windows with a view of the sea or the Clyde. One of these rooms would be crammed with every type and era of dolls' house possible to imagine and I would have all the time in the world to fill them with magic.



Sadie Brown

homewardflight@btinternet.com

www.homewardflight.etsy.com

Photos and text © Sadie Brown 2012

Formatted by Sally Watson

by

Frances Powell

of



Buttercup Miniatures

This is knitted in two colours of wool worked together to give a tweed effect. The garment can be knitted in a single colour of 1-ply wool, in this case use only 1 strand of 1-ply wool when working skirt.

st - stitch; **sst** - stocking stitch (stockinette stitch) - one row knit, one row purl; **k** - knit; **p** - purl; **()** - repeat instructions between brackets.

25 m each of 2 colours 1-ply wool, size 19 (1.00 mm/US size 5/0) needles.

This is knitted in one piece with a slit at the lower edge of the back. Using both colours of wool together cast on 64 sts.

Foundation row: (k 1, p 1) to end.

Change to sst with border:

Row 1: k 1, p 1, k to last 2 sts, p 1, k 1.

Row 2: k 2, p to last 2 sts, k 2.

Row 3-6: rep rows 1 and 2 twice.

Row 7: k 1, p 1, k to last 2 sts, p 1, k 1.

Row 8: cast off 4 sts, p to last 2 sts, k 2. (60 sts)

Change to sst:

Rows 9-26: sst

Row 27: k 7, k2tog, k 42, k2tog, k 7. (58 sts)

Row 28: p

Row 29: k 7, k2tog, k 40, k2tog, k 7. (56 sts)

Row 30: p

Row 31: k 7, k2tog, k 12, k2tog, k10, k2tog, k 12, k2tog, k 7. (52 sts)



Sew up back seam, from waist to cast off sts of row 8. Place placket (formed by cast off sts of row 8) and secure under the straight edge of back placket to form the back slit. Press lightly with a warm iron and damp cloth if required.

Materials required: Size 19 needles, small amount of 1-ply wool, small buckle

Cast on 3 sts.
Row 1: k 1, p 1, k 1.
 Repeat row 1 until belt measures approx. 3½ inches (9 cm).
 Cast off. (US: Bind off)

Thread one end of belt through buckle, and sew back on itself for about ¼ inch (0.5 cm) to attach belt to buckle. The belt can be attached to skirt if required by making belt loops on skirt - a strand of darker coloured wool passing over belt and sewn at side and back.



All rights reserved. This pattern is for private use only and may not be reproduced in any form, or reproduced for commercial gain including selling any item knitted up from these patterns without written permission from Buttercup Miniatures. Reproducing or transmitting this pattern by any means for any purpose other than for personal use constitutes a violation of copyright law.

For scale information: the UK Penny coin used on the photos is just slightly larger than a US Cent coin. The actual diameter is $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch or 2 cm. The UK penny coin sits just inside a European (Euro) 5c coin.

HATS FOR WITCHES at HALLOWE'EN



I make all sorts of hats, but I am mainly known in the miniature world for my 1/12th scale Gothic, Steampunk and Witches' hats which I now make all year round. But I make all sizes of hats from 1:24th scale right the way through to full size hats. I have made hats for people, dolls and even for pets.



THE GLAMOUR GIRLS



By aim member Kat Hazelton



I am by profession a Milliner (a maker of full size hats) but I have been making miniature hats for over 14 years. I started off learning millinery because I wanted to make my Nan an Edwardian hat for her doll. I visited my local library and found several wonderful dusty old books. Then I began visiting museums and got the hatting bug! I enrolled myself at college where I studied millinery for two years, learning all aspects of hat-making including pattern-making, construction and blocking. Not content with studying millinery, I went on to work in a hat shop for a time teaching myself the business side of millinery.



I really wanted to make my own hats but not being able to afford to buy all the expensive blocks I decided to make use of all the knowledge I had acquired to create miniature millinery. I started selling my hats to local shops, then did fairs around the UK. Now I mainly sell my creations through Etsy, word of mouth and my own website.



BETTER known as KAT-THE-HAT-LADY



GABBAGE GREEN



GINGER TOM WITCH



I am always searching for new ideas for my next creation. I can get inspiration from something as simple as finding a button on the ground or seeing leaves on a tree to getting ideas from costumes in a museum. I am always getting ideas so I keep a scrapbook which I cram full of photos, sketches, and scraps of fabrics. As a lot of my creations have strong Gothic influence I also tend to get inspiration from historical books, costume dramas and films. I have attended festivals such the Festival of History and

the WGW (the Whitby Goth Weekend) where Bram Stoker got his inspiration for writing Dracula! I think living in England is an inspiration to me. There is so much history to draw from. Wherever you live in the UK you are only a short drive away from a museum, stately home or Castle.



THE OSCOT WITCHES



I think my family have a lot to do with my passion for the dramatic. My Nan used to sort and dye feathers, some of which were sold to milliners. My Dad was involved in historical re-enactments and even organised a huge medieval fair and banquet to raise money for local charities. My Mum ran her own fancy dress business for a number of years, so my parents house was always full of costumes. Even on my wedding day I got married in a Gothic style red crushed velvet dress and we honeymooned at Whitby. So I think there is a touch of something very theatrical in my blood!

TOADSTOOL WITCH



PRUNELLA PUMPKIN



PRUNELLA PURPLE



STEAMPUNK WITCHES



AIM MEMBERS

"When witches go riding, and black cats are seen, the moon laughs

They that are born on Hallowe'en
shall see more than other folk
(old saying)



Janet Harmsworth, *Old Cat lady Witch*



Debi Lyons, *Witch*



VALLEY

and whispers, 'tis near Hallowe'en" anon



One little, two little, three little witches
fly over haystacks and fly over ditches
fly over moonbeams without any hitches
Hey, it's Hallowe'en night. anon



Kay Brooke, Witch on a Tricycle



Nancy Cronin, Pumpkin Harvest



Kerri Pajutee,
Juju, Jinx, Spiderpug and Ace.



Sarah Maloney, Light-up Pumpkin



Patricia Paul, Cat and Dog



Nancy Cronin, Ghost



Grace Griffin, Books for Hallowe'en

From ghoulies and ghosties
and long-leggedy beasties,
And things at go bump in the night
Good Lord, deliver us.
(old saying)



Marsha West, Coffin



Kay Brooke, Zombie



Ceynix, Haunted Tree



Julia Jeffreys,
Bone Collector's Cupboard

"Blessings be on this house,"
Granny said, perfunctorily.
It was always a good
opening remark for a witch.
It concentrated people's minds
on what other things might
be on this house."
Terry Pratchett, *Witches Abroad*



Carol Smith,
Witch's Accessories



Wendy Smale, *Crystal Balls*



Paul Smith, *Stump House*

Grace Griffin,
Magic Books





Kathi Mendenhall, (Nancy Cronin doll), *Wizard Robes*



Debie Lyons, *Dragon Foot Stand*



Joy Cox, *Wizard and Wizard's helper*

"Do not meddle in the affairs of wizards, for they are subtle and quick to anger".
JRR Tolkien



Ineke Marinussen, *Witch*

"I myself have seen this woman draw the stars from the sky; she diverts the course of a fast-flowing river with her incantations; her voice makes the earth gape, it lures the spirits from the tombs, sends the bones tumbling from the dying pyre. At her behest, the sad clouds scatter; at her behest, snow falls from a summer's sky". Catullus



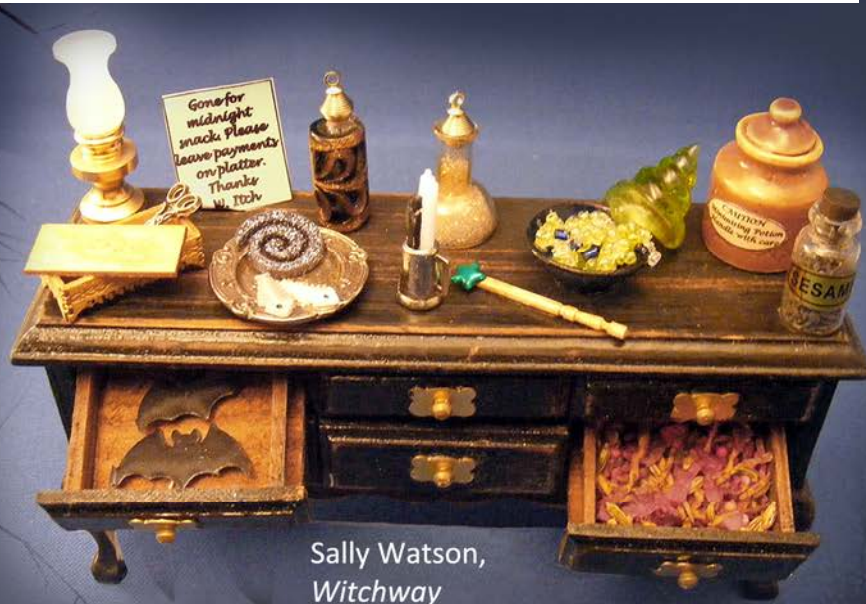
Cornelia Koehler, *Spell Gone Wrong*



Joy Cox, *Witches*



Margie Parus, Awaiting Midnight



Sally Watson,
Witchway

"Eye of newt, and toe of frog,
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg, and howlet's wing -
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble.

William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*

Kay Brooke, Butler



Mo Tipton,
Salamander Stew
and
Witch's Brew Punch



Sarah Maloney,
All-Seeing Cauldron

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Ineke Marinussen
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Wendy Smale
Wendy's Miniatures
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All Things Small...in the Fall!

By AIM Member Janet Smith

It's Fall at AIM and our Artisans have been busy making small things in small scales! Let's take a look!

Marianne Cook has been busy with custom orders. These dark wood window boxes in 1/48 (quarter) scale are filled with marigolds and pansies. The lavender is also 1/48 scale but in two sizes. All of these flowers will be used in a model railroad scene.

Marianne Cook
etsy.com/shop/Marianne26
mariannecook.com



In half scale, Dave Williams has created 1/24 (half) scale bottles. They are shown here on a 100 year old mahogany inlaid with Amboyna Burl with a small selection of his range of 1/24th bottles



Dave Williams
Of Harvinton Miniatures

Carol Kubrican of True2Scale is in the Fall Spirit with a new kit in 1/48 scale featuring Halloween themed dishes. The kit includes the shelf with shelf brackets, dishes, spooky decals and a spider web doily. The photo includes a pencil for scale. The shelf brackets are in the shape of spider webs.

Carol M. Kubrican
Of True2Scale
true2scale.com



Also ready for Halloween are these wooden carts filled with pumpkins in 1/24 scale by Christine Verstraete. She also shares a fun and tiny collection of decorated 1/24 scale cakes made from decorated wooden plugs.



Christine Verstraete
cverstraete.com



Francesca Vernuccio treads into even smaller scale waters with her micro scale (1/144) secret books, shown on the right. She also has micro scale buildings; a shop filled with tiny flowers, plants and a shop filled with tiny cakes.



Francesca Vernuccio
francescavernuccio1@virgilio.it
francescavernucciominatures.it



Francesca has also been busy making collections of micro scale plants and flowers shown here.



Pauline Coombes has been busy in her small scale kitchen, cooking up some wonderful treats. Her 1/48 scale cake (top) and 1/24 scale cake (bottom) are shown in full size, and also next to a ruler (so you can see how truly small they are!)



Pauline Coombes
Pauline's Minis
paulinesminis.blogspot.co.uk/



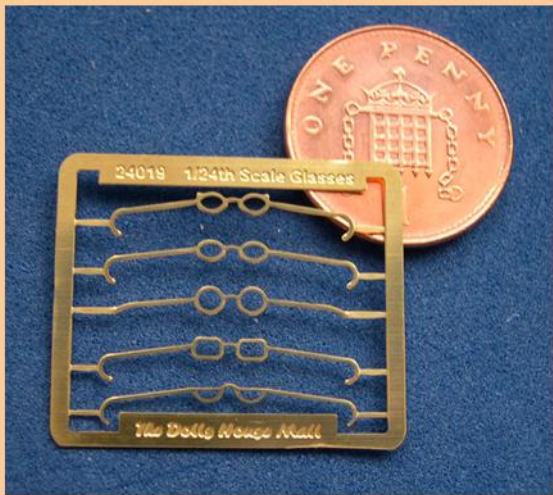
Alison Brand is also making small scale foods. Take a look at these 1/48 scale pie prep boards and pies. The details are amazing! Take your pick! Peach, apple and cherry are all available!



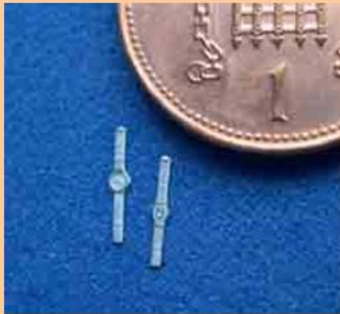
Food is wonderful, but how do you serve up that small scale food without small scale utensils to eat it? These kitchen utensils, in 1/24 scale, are available from the Dolls House Mall. Also in small metal minis are watches, eyeglasses and scissors!

Enjoy all the warm colors of fall and bring these warm colors into your small scale miniature scenes

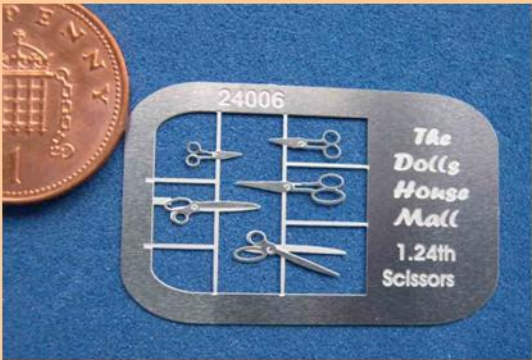
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Alison Brand
Alison Brand Miniatures
www.alisonbrand.etsy.com



The Dolls House Mall
thedollshousemall.com



Garden Plants & Flowers By Laura Settle



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www.AllThingsSmall.com
Laura@AllThingsSmall.com

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AIM COMPETITION

Don't forget our competition for dress makers that is open to ALL readers of the AIM magazine.

Viola Williams supplied a pattern and instructions in Issue 43 (pages 69 - 73). Two high resolution photos of your entry (front and back views) must be sent to the Editor Sally Watson at spwatson@ntlworld.com by 1st December 2012. Don't forget to include all your contact details.

All entrants will have a photograph featured and the winner will get a double page spread in the AIM magazine showcasing his or her work.

Several AIM Members will be attending the following fairs:

PHILADELPHIA MINIATURIA

Friday 2nd November - Sunday 4th November
10.00 am - 5.00 pm (11.00 am - 4.00 pm Sunday)
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia-Cherry Hill NJ

MIDLANDS DOLLS HOUSE & MINIATURES FAIR

Sunday 18th November 10.30 am - 4.00 pm at the
Chateau Impney Hotel, near Droitwich

KENSINGTON DOLLS HOUSE FESTIVAL

Saturday 24th November 10.30 am - 5.00 pm at the
Kensington Town Hall, Hornton St, London



KATE PINSENT DOLLS

KDesigns will in future be known as Kate Pinsent Dolls. Kate has some new Tudor 1/48 dolls. They are priced at £25 each or £40 for two. Kate will be developing more figures, similar to her 1/24 range.



www.kdesignsdolls.co.uk



CEYNIX MINIATURES

People passing Harrods in the run up to Christmas may spot work in a shop window thinking that they know the artisan.

They would be right. Paul Smith (fashion designer) of Nottingham asked Jax Perrat of Ceynix for some Oak trees to complement their Xmas merchandising.

With less than six weeks notice to produce 5 x 16 inch trees and 1 x 12 inch tree and, at the last minute, being asked to set them on a grassed 3m x 1.5m board - it was a bit of an ask, but it was delivered three days before the Christmas window was due to go live. So if you spot a window with a large tree graphic on it, go up and look inside.

www.ceynix.co.uk

Grapevine Prepared by AIM Member Malcolm Smith
malcolm@malcolmsminiatures.co.uk

All photographs and text © 2012
by their respective artisans.

LITERATURE IN MINIATURE

This chap is all in a flap about something! Unusual feathered seagull. He has been feathered with real feathers and faux fur. His legs and webbed feet have been made with wire. He will look realistic standing on a chimney pot or roof of your dolls house.



Size: 3.5" from wing tip to wing tip. 1.6" from floor to wing tip.



He is just £25.00 from

www.literatureinminiature.co.uk

CHRISTINE VERSTRAETE

Author Christine Verstraete and her book, IN MINIATURE STYLE II will be at the Wee C Club Mini Show in Elk Grove Village, Ill. on Nov 9-10.

www.weecminiclub.com/

Stop by and say hello!

Also, she is excited to announce that her new YA fiction book, GIRL Z: My Life as a Teenage Zombie, will be published in 2013 by Intrigue Publishing.

See details at cverstraete.com

JANET GRANGER

Have you visited the Customers' Gallery pages of Janet Granger's miniature needlepoint website lately? She has been adding lots of images that customers have sent in, showing the stitching they have done, displayed in their beautiful doll's houses - there are 17 new sets of pictures to see altogether.

Janet says: "My customers are a creative lot, and these pictures really do prove it. The pictures are so inspirational!"



Photograph by Dorte H



Photograph by Margaret B

Go to
www.janetgranger.co.uk/gallery.htm
to see all the pictures.
Dollhouse needlepoint kit website:
www.janetgranger.co.uk



DESERT MINIS

Desert Minis, Inc. will be attending the Philadelphia Miniaturia in Cherry Hill, NJ, November 2-4, 2012. On Thursday, November 1st, a workshop will be presented titled, "Party Foods in Quarter Scale" where students will make a veggie plate with dip, a deli plate with rolls, a shrimp platter with cocktail sauce and more! They'll even receive pre-filled glasses of champagne for the party!



For more information, see:

www.philadelphiainiaturia.com/index.html

Desert Minis, Inc products can be found at:

desert-minis.com/shop/

HELENA BLEEKER

Helena has some new designs on her website with more to follow!

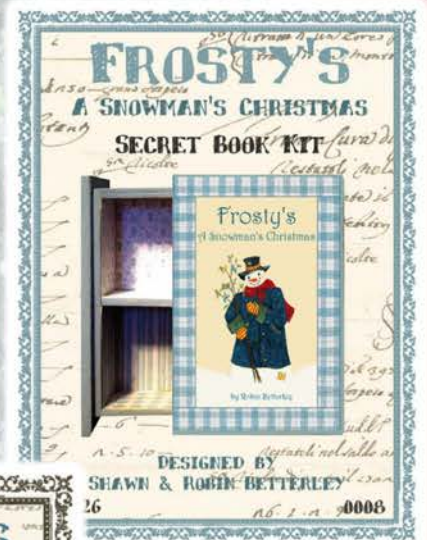


www.helena-petitefashions.co.uk/

ROBIN BETTERLEY'S MINIATURES AND DESIGNS

The 15th book kit in the Secret Book series is now available from Robin Betterley's Miniatures. This collection started several years ago and this new book and interior kit are just in time for the Holiday season. Frosty's Secret Book has a slide out drawer with two rooms. The scale of the rooms are approximately 1/144th scale.

Frosty's Interior Kit comes with everything to furnish this secret book including a bed, peg rack with scarves, dressing table and snowball stool, a cabinet, table and 2 snowball chairs and a tree! Kits include laser cut parts, full color art, instructions and accessories to make the kits up as pictured.



You can also join Robin Betterley's email newsletter to stay on top of all their new offerings.

To join the free newsletter or to order these and other Secret Book kits please visit

www.robinbetterley.com



TOWER HOUSE DOLLS

Tower House Dolls invites you to celebrate an old-fashioned miniature Christmas with our online vintage advent calendar. Beginning on 1st November we will have festive features, competitions, stories, giveaways, how-to's and lots more!

We are also planning some wonderful surprises including exclusively designed miniature toys, dolls and brand new toy kits. We hope you will find much to inform, interest, amuse and entertain you.....

Our vintage advent calendar is available at

aminiaturechristmas.blogspot.com/

www.towerhousedolls.co.uk



JULIE CAMPBELL DOLL ARTIST

Julie has published a book to celebrate ten years of making miniature dolls. it is now for sale on her website, blog and at:

www.blurb.co.uk/books/3632084

www.juliecampbelldollartist.co.uk

www.juliecampbelldollartist.blogspot.com



COTSWOLD MINIATURES WEEKEND

The 3rd Annual Cotswold Miniatures weekend was a continuing success. Held on the weekend of 13th & 14th October in Eastington, near Stroud Gloucestershire, it was attended by more than 42 students and 8 tutors including Geoff Lewis 1:48th scale buildings, 3D Frame 'The Pub' and 'Water Barrels' with Joe Wareing, Doll Sculpting and Dressing with Nicky Bott, Clothes Making and Draping with Hazel Dowd, Distressed French Display with Corrin Duggin, 14th Century Carved Chest with Ann High, Miniature Gollie and Elephant with Nicola Wilshaw & Ginnie Ebbrell of Penny Bunn Bears and 1:24th Scale Cottage and 1:24th Scale Furniture with Peter and Kate of Herdwick Landscapes. The photos of the event will shortly be added to the web site at www.cotswoldminiaturesweekend.co.uk. We are already planning next year's event and there are some ideas for exciting projects. If you have any ideas to share or would be interested in running a workshop please contact either Gillie Ewart at gillie.ewart@tiscali.co.uk or Lorraine Cooper at enquiries@thecraftpackcompany.co.uk

Lorraine Cooper

The Craft Pack Company

www.thecraftpackcompany.co.uk

LINDA MASTER

I have begun to introduce my new line of European antique miniatures. They are pictured and are available on my website at:

www.miraclechickenminiatures.com/Dollhouse_accessories.htm

I made a pipe box from the 1700s, chip-carved cherry wood, and several little pipes, carved from African Blackwood, Pear and brass. And an 1800's English rocking horse, a 1700s writing desk, chip-carved cherry wood. A little inkstand, the ink well I turned from brass, first time turning brass.

Artisans In Miniature

*“An association of professional artisans,
dedicated to promoting a high standard
of excellence in original handcrafted scale miniatures...”*

www.artisansinminiature.com

artisansinminiature.blogspot.com

The way in which AIM Association membership is offered has changed!

**Due to an overwhelming uptake of
membership over recent months, as
from July 31st 2010 the AIM Association
now has limited membership places
available...**

The AIM Association was set up in 2007 in order to provide a global platform for professional miniature artisans who wish to **actively promote** their work and **actively take part** and support the opportunities and promotional facilities which AIM uniquely offers for free: notably including...

- The AIM online forum
- Monthly FREE AIM magazine
- AIM Member's online directory
 - AIM website
- AIMs facebook & social networking pages
 - The AIM blog.

*AIM membership is only available for professional miniature artisans,
selling quality handmade miniatures to the public.*

*Membership is reserved for artisans who wish to
showcase & promote their work,
through active participation within the AIM Association.
Please note; A waiting list has now been introduced regarding
new membership applications.*

AIM is completely **FREE** to join and completely **FREE** to be part of.

So... if you are a professional miniature artisan and you would like to find out more about joining the

AIM Association, please email AIM's Membership Secretary: Tony for more information:

tonybroadwood@aol.com

Or alternatively visit our website...

This issue would not have been possible without the generous contributions from the following AIM members...

Many thanks therefore go to...



*Alison Brand
Ana María Villalón
Bea (Fiona) Broadwood
Carol M. Kubrican
Carol Smith
Catherine Davies
Christiane Lourier
Christine Verstraete
Cornelia Koehler
Dave Williams
Debie Lyons
Debra Dixon-Paver
Dolls' House Mall
Frances Powell
Francesca Vernuccio
Grace Griffin
Helena Bleeker
Ineke Marinussen*

*Jacqui (Ceynix)
Jacqui Perrat
Jane Laverick
Janet Harmsworth
Janet Smith
Joy Cox
Julia Jeffreys
Kat Hazleton
Kathi R. Mendenhall
Kathy Brindle
Kay Brooke
Kerri Pajutee
Linda Master
Ludwina Akbulut-
Van Oosterwyck
Malcolm Smith
Margie Parus
Marianne Cook
Marsha West*

*Mary Williams
Mo Tipton
Nancy Cronin
Patricia Paul
Paul Smith
Pauline Coombes
Philippa Todd
Sadie Brown
Sally Watson
Sarah Maloney
Viola Williams
Wendy Smales*



www.artisansinminiature.com

Please Note:

The projects included in this publication are not suitable for children under the age of 14.
The miniatures featured in this magazine are collectors items and therefore unsuitable for children under 14.
All projects are undertaken at your own risk. AIM does not accept responsibility for any injury incurred.
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